

استبيان للدجاج الحامل لعدوى مرض الاسهال الأبيض في بعض قرى الصعيد

د. م. رفاعي

الملخص

أشار فحص الدجاج المحلى في بعض قرى الصعيد للطيور الحاملة لعدوى مرض الاسهال الأبيض باختبار التجمع السريع الى سعة انتشار هذه العدوى .

وقد تروأحت نسبة الطيور الحاملة للعدوى في ٦ قرى من محافظة أسيوط باختبار واحد أجرى في عام ١٩٦٦ - ١٩٦٧ بين ١٥٣ ، ٣٤٨٪ ، ومتوسط قدرة ٢٣٢٪ بينما كان متوسط هذه النسبة في ثلاثة اختبارات متتالية خلال الفترة بين ١٩٧٠ - ١٩٧٥ لخمس قرى من محافظة سوهاج هو ١٤٧٥٪ ، ١٤٨٨٪ ، ١٥٣٢٪ على التوالي .

INCIDENCE OF PULLORUM DISEASE IN SOME VILLAGES OF UPPER EGYPT

(With 5 tables)

By

EL.R. M. Refaie

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SUMMARY

Screening of native chickens in some villages of Upper Egypt for carriers of *Sal. gallinarum-pullorum* infection with the whole blood stained antigen test revealed a widespread distribution of the infection.

The incidence of reactors in 6 villages of Assiut Province ranged between 1.53 and 3.48% in one test in 1966/1967, where as it averaged 14.75, 14.88, and 15.32% among 5 villages of Sohag Province in 3 successive test conducted during the period 1970 - 1975.

INTRODUCTION

Salmonella gallinarum - pullorum infection in poultry is a serious egg - born disease which results in great economic losses to the poultry industry due to decrease in egg. production, fertility, and hatchability together with high mortality in baby chicks.

In Egypt the majority of poultry population consists of small units of 10 - 20 birds owned by farmers who follow primitive methods in breeding and hatching. The so-called (balady hatcheries) distributed all over the country obtain their eggs from farmers in their vicinity and serve as the main source of supplying them with their requirement of day-old chicks. Under this system of production a high incidence and widespread of poultry diseases is expected, especially those of eggborne epidemiological character like pullorum disease. This disease results in serious economic losses to the national poultry industry, and until now no policy or regulations could be adopted for its prevention and control in villages and commercial balady hatcheries.

BASSIOUNI EL-AHWAL and FOAD 1965) reported a high incidence of carriers of *gallinarum - pullorum* infection in some villages of Monofia Province in Delta. It is the aim of the present work to gain information about the incidence and distribution of this infection in some villages of Upper EGYPT

TABLE 1. Incidence of pullorum carriers in some villages of Assiut province 1966/1967

Village	No. of Tested birds	No. of reactors @	% of reactors
Awlad ilias	377	11	2.91%
B Bani Mohamed .	517	18	3.48%
Bani Mur	411	7	1.70%
Elhawatka	373	9	2.41%
Musha.	455	7	1.53%
Rifa	310	6	1.93%

@ Wole blood-stained antigen test;

TLBLE 2 Incidence of pullorum carriers in some villages of Shoag 1970/1971. province

Village	No. of tested birds	No. of reactors	%of reactors
El-khalafia.	957	151	15.77%
Nagi-Elgibali.	697	121	17.36%
N. Elsandak	490	89	18.16%
N. Meglad.	570	66	11.57%
N. Soror	378	41	10.84%

@ Whole blood stained antige test.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Chickens : Mature chickens of the native varieties in 6 villages of Assiut province and 5 villages of So hag province were screened for specific agglutinis for *Sal. gallinarum* - pullorum infection. IN 1966 - 1967 and 1970 - 1971. 310 up to 957 birds were examined in each village. Subsequently retesting was restricted to 500 birds in each of 5 villages of So hag province to follow up the incidence of infection. In each village the farmers were asked to bring their birds for testing to a suitable central place away from sunlight and dust.

PULLORUM

TABLE 3. Incidence of pullorum carriers in some villages of Sohag province 1972/1973.

Village	NO. of tested birds	No. of reactors @	% of reactors
El.—khalafia . . .	500	75	15%
N.—Elgibali	500	77	15.4%
N.—Elsandak . . .	500	91	18.2%
N.—Meglاد	500	47	9.4%
N.—Soror	500	93	18.6%

@ Whole blood stained antigen test.

TABLE 4. Incidence of pullorum carriers in some villages of Sohag province 1974/1975.

Village	NO. of tested birds	NO. of reactors	% of reactors
El-Khalafia	500	75	15.0%
N.—Elgibali	500	77	15.4%
N.—Elsandak	500	91	18.2%
N.—Meglاد	500	47	9.4%
N.—Soror	500	93	18.6%

@ Whole-blood stained antigen test.

Serology : The whole-blood agglutination test (Schaffer, Mac-DONALD, HALL and BUNYEA 1931) was carried out in the usual way using the pullorum stained antigen manufactured by the Institute of Animal Health, Ministry of Agriculture, A.R.E.

Reading were recorded within one minute after mixing blood with antigen and only strong and distinct agglutinations were considered as positive (BAS-SIOUNI *et al* (1965). Weak and late reactions were not considered.

TABLE 5.—Incidence of pullorum carriers in some villages of Sohag province during 1970/1975.

Village	percent of reactors		
	1970/1971	1972/1973	1974/1975
El-Khalafia . . .	15.77	18.8	15.0
N.—Elgibali . . .	17.36	17.6	15.4
NN.—Elsandak .	18.16	17.4	18.2
N.—Megladi . . .	11.57	8.6	9.4
N.—Soror	10.84	12.0	18.6

a whole-blood stained antigene test.

DISCUSSION

From the results it is evident that *Sal. gallinarum-pullorum* infection is widely distributed among native chickens in the examined villages of Upper Egypt. A similar widespread has been reported by Bassiouni *et al* (1965) among some villages in Delta.

The incidence of carrier birds in 1966/1967 ranged between 1.53 and 3.48% (average 2.32%) among 6 villages of Assiut province which is astonishingly low than might be expected. However the incidence of infection was high among 5 villages of Sohag province, averaging 14.75%, 14.88%, and 15.32% in 3 successive tests carried out during the period 1970 to 1975.

The difficulty in the prevention and control of *Sal. gallinarum-pullorum* infection in villages and commercial balady hatcheries will remain as long as chickens are raised in small units under prevailing village conditions, where they are continuously exposed to the infection. Compulsory testing and elimination of carriers under reasonable compensation of the farmers, if feasible, as suggested by Bassiouni *et al*. (1965) may thus only lead to lowering the incidence of reactors but not to eradication of infection. Likewise, adopting strict regulations concerning hatching eggs for commercial balady hatcheries may be only beneficial if large supply flocks for hatching eggs are established in the vicinity of the hatcheries where sanitation and sound management together with period testing can be adopted readily.

REFERENCES

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Author address : Faculty of Vet. Med. Assiut university Poultry Section.